



## Is Your Day Care Facility Green & Healthy?

Reducing a child’s exposure to toxins in the environment can have a huge impact on a child’s health and development. There are many things that can be done that will make a difference. Use the checklist below to find out if your facility is moving in the right direction.

Yes	No	Don’t Know	
			Cars or other vehicles are not allowed to idle near the facility.
			Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the premises or in sight of children.
			Environmentally preferable third-party certified green cleaning products* and least-toxic disinfecting products are used.
			Only non-aerosol products are used.
			Areas are dusted, mopped and vacuumed regularly to minimize dust.
			Walk-off mats are at all the entrances to our facility.
			Digital thermometers are used instead of mercury-containing thermometers.
			All used batteries, fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs are securely stored and recycled.
			Rugs are vacuumed daily using a vacuum with a HEPA filter.
			Only non-toxic art supplies approved by the Art & Creative Materials Institute (ACMI) are used.
			Only glass or microwave safe ceramic dishes are used to heat food in the microwave.
			Garbage is covered at all times to avoid attracting pests and minimize odors.
			Non-toxic techniques are used both inside and outside the facility to prevent and control pests (insects and weeds).
			Adequate ventilation is maintained; there is no stale or musty smell.
			Water leaks are repaired promptly.
			Only lead-free and PVC-free toys are used. Toys made out of soft plastic are avoided.
			Playground equipment is made from non-pressure treated wood or other materials.
			All paper, cardboard, glass and plastic bottles are recycled.
			Upholstered furniture and stuffed animals are cleaned/washed regularly.
			No scented products such as perfumes and “air fresheners” are used.
			Clutter is kept to a minimum; toys are stored in enclosed containers.

\* Look for the label. Green Seal and Eco-Logo are the two most common. To obtain third party certification, manufacturers must submit the product to extensive testing by independent reviewers.

If you answered “YES” to all of these statements, you are on your way to having a green & healthy day care facility. Congratulations! Keep moving in this direction. If you answered “NO” to any of the statements, we suggest that you try to address them, if at all possible.

For more information, see reverse side.

Connecticut Department of Public Health  
[www.ct.gov/dph](http://www.ct.gov/dph)

INFORM, Inc.  
Cleaning for Health  
<http://www.informinc.org/>

Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, New England Chapter  
Asthma-Friendly Child Care: A Checklist for Parents and Providers  
[www.asthmandallergies.org](http://www.asthmandallergies.org)

Green Seal  
<http://www.greenseal.org>



EcoLogo  
<http://www.ecologo.org>

